

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 06938 141412Z

44

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 SCA-01 PC-15 USIE-00 IO-14

AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00 FDRE-00 ACDA-19 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /224 W  
----- 001856

O 141325Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3950

DOD WASHDC

UNCLAS TUNIS 6938

FOR ADMIRAL MURPHY FROM AMBASSADOR

SUBJECT: USG HELICOPTER SUPPORT RE TUNISIAN FLOODS

1. IN VIEW OF IMPROVED WEATHER SITUATION AND AFTER CAREFULLY CHECKING WITH TOP TUNISIAN OFFICIALS, I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT FURTHER U.S. HELICOPTER SUPPORT (I.E., SUPPORT IN ADDITION TO FOUR HELICOPTERS ARRIVING TUNIS THIS AFTER-NOON) IS NO LONGER NEEDED. RAIN HAS CEASED AND REPORTS FROM SOUTH INDICATE THAT SITUATION IS STABILIZED. DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR GERARD, WHO HAS UNDERTAKEN RECONNAISSANCE OF MOST OF AFFECTED AREA IN THE SOUTH, HAS TELEPHONE ME FROM SOUSSE CONFIRMING FOREGOING.

2. SECRETARY OF STATE HAMZAOU HAS PASSED ALONG TO ME TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT VIEW THAT WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY PROVIDED IS SUFFICIENT. HE SAYS TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT IS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR OUR ASSISTANCE THUSFAR, AS WELL AS OUR INTENTION TO BRING INTO SOUSSE HELICOPTER CARRIER IWO JIMA. HOWEVER, HE SHARES OUR VIEW THAT

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 06938 141412Z

CARRIER'S ARRIVAL IN SOUSSE NO LONGER NEEDED.

3. ACCORDINGLY, I REQUEST THAT IWO JIMA NOT PROCEED TO SOUSSE AND THAT NO FURTHER HELICOPTER ASSISTANCE BE PROVIDED. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR PROPOSED TO HIS GOVERNMENT "TURNING BACK" ITALIAN CRUISER DUE IN THIS AFTERNOON WITH ADDITIONAL HELICOPTERS BUT SINCE CRUISER ONLY AN HOUR OR SO OUT FROM TUNIS, ITALIAN AUTHORITIES SUGGESTED CRUISER PROCEED AS SCHEDULED.

4. IT IS MY ESTIMATE THAT 4 HELICOPTERS WHICH YOU HAVE SO EXPEDITIOUSLY PROVIDED WILL BE FULLY USED AND NEEDED FOR AT LEAST TWO OR THREE DAYS, AND POSSIBLY MORE.

5. VIEW COMMO PROBLEMS OF YESTERDAY, REQUEST IMMEDIATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THIS MESSAGE.  
SEELYE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, FLOODS, NATURAL DISASTERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15-Nov-2001 by williad>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by kellerpr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** USG HELICOPTER SUPPORT RE TUNISIAN FLOODS  
**TAGS:** SWEL, TS  
**To:** n/a  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005